



Agenda Date: 12/18/2007
Agenda Placement: 6Q

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Martha Burdick for Robert Peterson - Director
Public Works
REPORT BY: Deborah Elliott, Watershed Resources Division Specialist, 259-5969
SUBJECT: Countywide Groundwater Monitoring Program - Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Public Works requests adoption of a resolution authorizing the Director to apply for a Local Groundwater Assistance Program grant in the amount of \$250,000 for the term June 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public Works proposes to expand the voluntary groundwater monitoring program to create a more inclusive database of groundwater levels throughout the County. This project will seek volunteers spread geographically throughout the County groundwater basins willing to have their wells monitored to supplement the limited well monitoring data currently available. The primary goal of the project is to highlight and prioritize gaps in the monitoring data and to work to eliminate the data gaps to achieve more complete groundwater level and water quality data countywide.

The proposed work plan, detailed in the Background section of this report, supports recommendations set out in the 2050 Napa Valley Water Resources study and also supports General Plan goals.

The proposed grant will expand the groundwater monitoring program currently active in the MST basin and valley floor, but will not improve groundwater supplies. The proposed project is not related to the MST recycled water project in any way.

The funding agency of the grant requires a resolution that specifies approval to apply for the grant and the intent to conduct the project pursuant to all grant conditions from the Board of Supervisors and designation of a grant contact person by title.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Match funds are not required by the grant, but a minor amount of County staff time will be required to administer the grant and to provide continued monitoring and data management following expenditure of the grant funds. This funding would come from the Public Works budget.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	County staff time will be required to administer the grant and to provide continued monitoring and data management following expenditure of the grant funds. However, obtaining the grant will allow Public Works staff to perform extensive research and outreach to expand current groundwater monitoring activities. The relatively small long-term budget impact will help establish a more comprehensive countywide groundwater monitoring program to create a more inclusive database of groundwater levels throughout the County.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	Once the program is completed, County staff will need to continue monitoring an increased number of wells over what is currently being monitored along with the associated database management. The fiscal impact of this activity is expected to be less than \$10,000 annually.
Consequences if not approved:	If the item is not approved, the County will forfeit an opportunity to receive grant funding to create a more robust groundwater monitoring program within the County. Without a funding source it is unknown when an improved Napa County Groundwater monitoring program will occur.
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

Categorical Exemption Class 6: It has been determined that this type of project does not have a significant effect on the environment and is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act. The project will not impact an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern, has no cumulative impact, there is no reasonable possibility that the activity may have a significant effect on the environment due to unusual circumstances, will not result in damage to scenic resources, is not located on a list of hazardous waste sites, cause substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource or extract groundwater in excess of the Phase 1 groundwater extraction standards as set by the Department of Public Works. [See Class 6 ("Information Collection") which may be found in the guidelines for the implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act at 14 CCR §15306.]

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Local Groundwater Management Assistance Act (LGA) of 2000 was enacted to provide grants to local public agencies to conduct groundwater studies or to carry out groundwater monitoring and management activities. A

total of \$6.4 million in funding from Proposition 50, Chapter 8 is available for fiscal year 2007-2008 under the LGA grant program.

In the proposed grant application, staff will expand the voluntary groundwater monitoring program currently active in the valley floor region and the Milliken-Sarco-Tulucay groundwater basin to create a more inclusive database of groundwater levels countywide. Public Works staff will seek volunteers spread geographically throughout the County groundwater basins willing to have their wells monitored to supplement limited well monitoring data currently available. The primary goal of this project is to highlight and prioritize gaps in the monitoring data and to work to eliminate the data gaps to achieve more complete groundwater level and water quality data countywide. Work under this grant will be closely coordinated with other watershed assessment, monitoring efforts, including watershed coordination work conducted by the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board of Napa County, as well as Napa County Resource Conservation District (see Planning item).

Tasks include the following:

- Task 1. Determine Areas Lacking Sufficient Groundwater Data
- Task 2. Begin Public Outreach to Recruit Volunteers
- Task 3. Develop Monitoring Protocols
- Task 4. Expand Current Groundwater Database
- Task 5. Collect Groundwater Data Twice per Year
- Task 6. Collect Water Quality Samples Once per Year
- Task 7. Track Data, Prepare a Final Report
- Task 8. Maintain Stakeholder Involvement Adoption of the resolution will authorize the

Director of Public Works to apply for an LGA Program grant in the amount of \$250,000 for the term June 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010 to accomplish the foregoing task list. The resolution will appoint the Director as the grant contact person designated by title.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Groundwater Grant Resolution

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi